

Elaine Cardenas  
 Library 740  
 Evaluation Matrix  
 9/30/11

We teach our students to evaluate websites based on relevancy, appropriateness, detail, currency, authority, and bias. To teach the students the skills necessary to evaluate the websites, we do an ISearch project. This is a personal research paper where each student chooses his/her own topic which is important to them. Students learn how to evaluate websites they want to use for their projects based on the criteria following.

Authority	Yes	No
Can you tell who wrote the page? If so, write the author's name here:		
Can you email the author?		
With whom is the author affiliated? E.g. With a particular university, company, organization, etc. This is an important clue to the expertise behind the writing. Write affiliation here:		
Does the domain suffix give you any more information which might influence your opinion of the page? (E.g. <b>.gov .edu, .com .org</b> )		
Is the page free of spelling or grammatical errors?		
Is the writing objective without bias?		
Does the page include such things as primary sources, citation of sources, or a glossary?		
Can you verify the information somewhere else?		
Can you determine if the author is an expert in the field?		

Detail/Currency/Visual Aspects	Yes	No
Is there information on the page indicating when the information was last updated? Is it current?		
Are the links up to date?		

<b>Detail/Currency/Visual Aspects</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Does the page have a site map? (A map with images/text indicating contents of the entire site)		
Are sections clearly labeled with titles, headings, and subtitles?		
Are links clearly labeled and visible?		
Can you navigate between pages easily? Can you get back to the home page?		
Are there links to other related websites?		
Does the site include an internal search engine?		
Does the site have design appeal? Is the clearly laid out and easy to understand?		
Is the interface user friendly without distracting adds?		

<b>Relevancy/Appropriateness</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
If you perform the "Find" command for a key search phrase, do you get more than three results?		
Is the information in this site what you were looking for?		
Is the level of the writing on this site a good match for your reading and comprehension level?		

**Based on your responses above, write a paragraph explaining why this site either is or is not a good resource for your project.**